



## COUNTY OF SAN BENITO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

481 Fourth Street • Hollister, CA 95023  
[www.cosb.us](http://www.cosb.us)

Phone: 831-636-4000 • Fax: 831-636-4010  
[supervisors@cosb.us](mailto:supervisors@cosb.us)

May 15, 2012

Lisa Jackson  
USEPA Headquarters  
Ariel Rios Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Mail Code: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Rick Cooper  
Bureau of Land Management  
Hollister Field Office  
20 Hamilton Court  
Hollister, CA 95023

✓ Jared Blumenfeld  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
Mail Code: ORA-1  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Jim Kenna  
Bureau of Land Management  
California State Office  
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1623  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear All:

On behalf of the San Benito County Board of Supervisors I am requesting the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to submit a formal request to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reevaluate the Risk Analysis that was conducted in the Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA) here in San Benito County.

The CCMA was permanently closed based on a study by the EPA, which concluded that naturally occurring asbestos posed a public health risk in the CCMA. However, subsequently, the International Environmental Research Foundation (IERF), at the behest of the California State Parks, conducted further studies and issued a report that concluded that management and operational strategies could be employed to allow for off-highway-vehicle (OHV) recreation in the CCMA without exposing the public to higher than acceptable levels of naturally occurring asbestos. In light of this report, which directly contradicts the conclusions of the EPA studies, it would appear a reevaluation would be in order. There needs to be a reconciliation of the EPA and IERF studies, especially when there are conflicting scientific conclusions.

The CCMA was a critically important recreational area that brought hundreds of thousands of dollars to the county which is suffering from an unemployment rate in excess of 20%. The prudent use of the CCMA would greatly enhance the economy of San Benito County while providing excellent recreational opportunities for families in the area and in the region.

The Board of Supervisors respectfully requests your sincere consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jaime De La Cruz". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and "D".

Jaime De La Cruz, Chair  
San Benito County Board of Supervisors

C: Congressman Sam Farr

SAN BENITO COUNTY  
CLERK OF THE BOARD  
481 FOURTH STREET  
HOLLISTER, CA 95023



5/18  
SFD

~~Jared Blumenfeld~~  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
Mail Code: ~~OPA-1~~  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Gene JOHNSON

SFD 8-2  
(9TH FLOOR)

94105392099

